

REMARKS

General remarks

The following claims have been canceled from the application, without prejudice or disclaimer: claims 1-5, 7-10, 22, 23, 29-31, 33-38, 40-43, 55, 56, 62-64, 66-71, and 73-76. Applicant reserves the right to seek the allowance of these canceled claims in a continuation application.

Claims 6, 11-21, 24-28, 32, 39, 44-54, 57-61, 65, and 72 are now all the claims pending in the application.

Independent claims 6, 39, and 72 have been amended to include the subject matter of various ones of the dependent claims. The requirement in each independent claim related to generating a report of matched nodes is well supported in the originally-filed specification. Step S2655, for example, supports this requirement.

Claim rejections

The Examiner's rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102 is rendered moot by the cancellation of the rejected claims. The cancellation of the rejected claims should not be taken as an admission of unpatentability, or as a sign of acquiescence to the Examiner's interpretation of the prior art. Applicant has reserved the right to seek the allowance of the canceled claims in a continuation application, and will address the prior art if and when such an action is required.

Claims indicated as being allowable

The Examiner previously indicated that claims 6, 11-32, 39, 44-65, and 72 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant previously rewrote the claims in such a manner.

Applicant has further rewritten the claims to more quickly obtain a patent.

SUPPLEMENTAL AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U.S. APPLICATION NO. 10/783,091
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. Q74354

Conclusion and request for telephone interview

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Applicant herewith petitions the Director of the USPTO to extend the time for reply to the above-identified Office Action for an appropriate length of time if necessary. Unless a check is attached, any fee due under 37 U.S.C. § 1.17(a) is being paid via the USPTO Electronic Filing System (EFS). The USPTO is also directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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